

## WOMAN'S WORLD.

MRS. FANNIE L. HELMUTH, THE NEW PRESIDENT OF SOROSIS.

A Noble Organization—One Woman's Way.  
Toilet Secrets—Elected a Circuit Standard—Sue B. Anthony's Plain Talk.

## An Owner of Prevention.

Mrs. Fannie L. Helmuth, the new president of Sorosis, is a handsome woman, with a pleasant voice, kindly self possessed, well dressed and tactful. Her hair is somewhat gray, and yet it is a surprise to find that she is the mother of a married daughter, the wife of Captain Edgerton of West Point, and a son, who has the same name and title as his father, Dr. William Ted Helmuth. She lives in a beautiful house at 226 Madison avenue. Her home is a museum of curios and art treasures which she and her husband have collected, for, although they have a home at Bay Harbor, most of their summers are spent in Japan or some other interesting place.

Mrs. Helmuth has been chairman of the executive committee during the past year and has therefore read but one paper during that time. That paper was on the subject which, outside of her home life, is of the greatest interest to Mrs. Helmuth—that is, philanthropy. She has been engaged in charitable work since "before the war." Mrs. Helmuth is by birth a New Yorker, but she lived a long time in St. Louis, where she was on the sanitary commission for the relief of the soldiers during the civil war. It was in St. Louis, too, that she passed through an epidemic of cholera which robbed her of her fears of the disease.

She keeps all her husband's books, pays the bills, looks after the bank account and relieves him of all worry about clerical matters. In addition to this she is so much interested in his profession that she has learned a good deal of medicine and surgery and is of little assistance in an emergency. So great is her reputation in this respect that once when her husband was not at home to respond to a call to a case of typhoid fever the messenger was sent back to ask Mrs. Helmuth if she would not come herself.

Mrs. Helmuth is also familiar with hospital life, for she has started two hospitals—the Helmhuth and the Flower. The first meetings to make arrangements for the founding of these hospitals were held in Mrs. Helmuth's drawing room. She is the president of the Woman's guild, which supports the Flower hospital, and which bought the ground on which Governor Flower put up the building.

Mrs. Helmuth has been a member of Sorosis since 1870 and is as popular that even the waiters at the luncheon congratulated one another over her election. She laughed when asked what she believed on the subject of woman's position.

"Oh, I don't believe in woman's supremacy," she said, "I believe in woman's equality with man."

## A Noble Organization.

The Working Women's Protective Union was formed in the autumn of 1883, and in its 11 years of life has investigated 365,000 applications, an average of nearly \$40 for every working day of its existence; has furnished employment to 61,000 women and has collected \$57,613, money earned by not withheld from working women, free of all cost to them. Besides collecting this amount of money, it has settled \$8,000 imputes out of court. The cost of carrying on this great work is only about \$3,000 a year, to obtain which the union relies on voluntary aid. Seldom is so much good done so cheaply. Officers, directors, counsel, attorney, do their work without pay. The expenditures of the union are wholly for rent, legal fees, clerical work and incidental expenses.

The work of the union is not bounded by the limits of New York city. All working women except household servants in Brooklyn, Jersey City and the vicinity of New York may share its benefits. To more than these, however, the union has opened the doors of the courts, for through its influence a law has been passed imposing triple costs on employers proved in court to have defrauded their women employees, and this law covers the entire state.

The fact that a protective union exists, with the means and determination to resist every wrong done to working women, of itself prevents the commission of many such wrongs. It also aids in correcting a greater number of such wrongs which have been committed, and the rendering of free justice to those who, without the union's existence, would be almost helpless.—New York Sun.

## One Woman's Way.

Sleighs drawn by four horses are employed on the Wellington street route. The heavily loaded sleigh was coming cityward. One of the horses next the vehicle fell. The driver lashed it with his whip. Then he kicked it. Finally he swore at it. But he did not get down to extirpate the animal from the harness which held it a prisoner. The men in the sleigh buried their chins in their overcoats and indulged the contemplation of fatalism as a philosophy which removes every passion from the breast. Suddenly a lady, clad in a sedan chair, got out, and going up to the driver said to him in an imperative tone, "Give me that whip!" The driver was dazed. In a stupefied way he handed over the whip.

"Now," said the little lady, "if you touch the weight of this whip across your shoulders. Get down this moment and cut the harness and help the horse to rise!" The driver stared at her. The women in the sleigh uttered: the men hung their heads. "Get down this moment," said the lady, shaking the whip over the driver. The latter mechanically obeyed. The harness was loosened; the horse was raised to its feet. The lady put her hand in her pocket, brought forth some biscuits and treated the four horses to one each. The effect was magical. The hopeless cynicism of their

poor faces gave place to hope and love and gratitude. Then the lady, very white, but as resolute as Joan of Arc ever was, entered the sleigh. The men still hung their heads in silence.—Montreal Star.

## Toilet Secrets.

A London toilet specialist has been apparently revealing some professional secrets to an interviewer. He says artfully in the beginning that eyebrow pencils have gone out since the 13th was introduced from the east of using a solution of Chinese ink in rosewater, which he discreetly avers is absolutely harmless.

Then he grows confidential and says, "Perhaps you'll hardly believe it, but ladies come here regularly to have their eyebrows clipped and singed and then rubbed with petroleum, just as you would go to your hairdresser."

The recipe of belladonna and sandalwood which we prescribe for ladies effected with damp hands has also become very popular, and prescriptions come in every day to be made up. In the summer months, too, we are busy making up freckle washes, a mixture of toilet vinegar, oil of lavender, lemon juice, oil of cedar and distilled water being in special request. Again, I may astound you by the statement that one lady customer of ours—a German—wishes her face once a week in beer to keep away freckles."

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